



Legislature 2003: 47th District Report

For residents of the 47th District - Auburn, Black Diamond, Covington, Kent, King County, Maple Valley, and Renton.

Rep. Jack Cairnes

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Dear friend,

As your representative in Olympia, when I review bills, reports, resolutions or proposed studies, I ask myself how the people of the 47th District will be affected. How will this legislation allow our families to stop worrying about affording dinner next month and enjoy dinner tonight – together?

We are facing a fiscal crisis in Washington. We've lost 160,000 jobs in our state in the last three years. I have a simple plan – **keep Boeing here and bring new jet production here**. Each part of our community must work to understand the other and **promote a partnership that encourages innovation and hard work**. Economic growth depends upon this relationship. **We can work together to bring production of the next Boeing jet to Washington, or not.**

The taxpayers of Washington deserve government officials who will pledge to bring efficiency, accountability and trust back to government. **If we lead, Boeing jobs – and others – will thrive in Washington.**

Thank you,

Rep. Jack Cairnes

P.S. As we have recently been through redistricting, this is the first time I have had a chance to communicate with many of you. You can help me become aware of your concerns by reading this report on the issues affecting our area and state, and sharing your answers to the questions inside. Thanks again, Jack



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Rep. Jack Cairnes

About this letter...
Letters like this help me reach your household and others with information about issues we face in Olympia. I also send out regular updates from Olympia via e-mail. If you are interested in receiving these e-mail updates, send your e-mail address so I can regularly inform you about things happening at the Capitol.

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What's most important to your family?

Share Your Thoughts

Please take the time to share your thoughts and return this card to the address below. Thank you in advance for your input. We hope to hear from you soon and in the months ahead.

Share your thoughts in the space below and return by mail to:
Rep. Jack Cairnes, 428 John L. O'Brien Bldg., P.O. Box 40600, Olympia, WA 98504-0600.

You may also send this to my e-mail address: cairnes_ja@leg.wa.gov

Would you like more information?

If you would like periodic updates on issues that you've indicated are important to you, please provide information below.

Name

Address and/or

E-Mail



Keep up with what lawmakers are doing in Olympia.

[http://hrc.leg.wa.gov/
members/cairnes.htm](http://hrc.leg.wa.gov/members/cairnes.htm)

For the latest breaking news from your State Capitol, cut along the dotted line and keep this address near your computer. From here, you can also send me comments and suggestions. I look forward to hearing from you.

Building Business, Creating Jobs

Adding more to a company's tax burden is irresponsible and will do nothing to help the families of Washington.

No New Taxes: History has shown one economic fact over and over: **we can't tax ourselves out of a recession.** Charging the businesses of this state more will only drive the jobs away faster.

This is why we must continue to provide incentives for research and development. **I have sponsored three bills that will encourage our state's companies, like Boeing, to continue working toward developing products in Washington.** The manufacturing sector has reached a low point. I want to turn it around.

Transportation: Earning back your Trust

We must improve our state's transportation system. Families spend too long on the roads and not enough time together. Businesses spend far too much money moving products.

Finally, support is building behind a plan that will **change the rules, bring real accountability to the Department of Transportation, and most importantly, get our state moving again.** This new plan will respond to the needs of families and employers, but will also hold DOT accountable for your tax dollars. It calls for the DOT to streamline the permit process, reduce the red tape and get the roads built. **We can eliminate excessive government regulation that is preventing a much-needed economic recovery.**



Need a Guest Speaker?

If you are a teacher, belong to a civic group, fraternal organization or community service club and would like a guest speaker at an upcoming event, I would be honored and pleased to attend your function and report on the issues and developments in the Legislature. Or, if you prefer, I can tailor my remarks to address the particular area of concern of your membership. If your group would like to receive a regular report via e-mail, just let me know.

Please contact me at 360-786-7858 or cairnes_ja@leg.wa.gov

EDUCATION: Our Responsibility, Our Paramount Duty

Balancing the budget on the backs of our state's students and teachers is wrong



Fully Funding I-728, I-732: As of this writing, our budget red ink could reach \$2.6 billion dollars. Ask any single legislator how the deficit grew so large and each may give you a different answer. However, the main reason is simple: too much spending.

Fortunately, it seems the light has gone on. A supposedly "new and innovative" approach has been put forward. Leaders are finally talking about priorities. **I believe this transformation into common-sense budgeting has taken far too long.**

So today, we hear about the cuts. On the front lines of attack are our schools. The children and teachers of our state must be protected. **I believe we must fully fund Initiatives 728 (class size reduction) and 732 (teacher COLA).** Preparing our children for the high-tech jobs of tomorrow is too important to delay. It's unfortunate the citizens were not made fully aware of the cost of these measures during their campaigns. **I support open, honest communication with the people of this state.** The budget impacts associated with the cost of these initiatives were readily available, but ignored by many government leaders. The complete cost of these initiatives should have been shared with the voters of Washington.

The fact remains however, an overwhelming majority of voters approved these measures. I believe they would have shown their support knowing all the facts. **The people of this state realize the importance of world-class schools.**

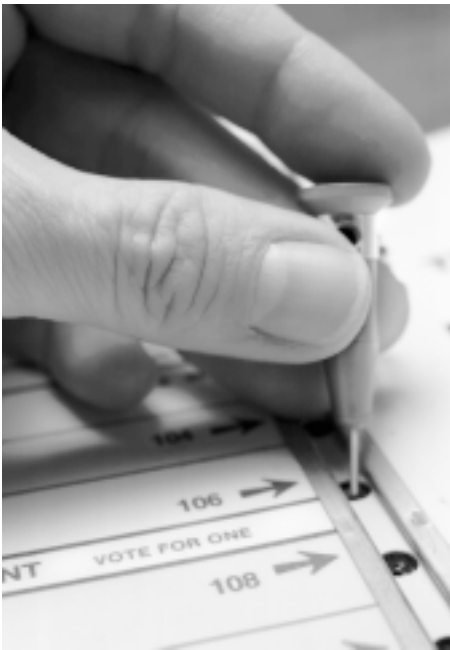
As leaders elected by the people, we have the responsibility to **fully fund these important education initiatives and protect our children's future.**

Protecting Your Vote

The most recent election highlighted a number of disturbing problems in King County. **Members of our Armed Forces, those on the front lines in our fight to stop terrorism, were left out of the process.**

Many of you didn't receive the ballots to get the chance to vote. **I find that unacceptable.** Legislation introduced in the Legislature this year to improve our election process include:

- **House Bill 1156**, which would require county auditors to mail absentee ballots at least 18 days before every primary, general and special election.
- **House Bill 1155** would authorize a pilot project for military and overseas voters to vote over the Internet.
- **House Bill 1161** would allow Washington to participate in the Help America Vote Act. It would provide state and local governments funding to replace antiquated voting systems with more modern equipment.



Parks Open for Every Citizen

My main job as a legislator is representing the citizens of the 47th District. That is why I was proud to sponsor a bill prohibiting the Parks and Recreation Department from charging parking fees at our state parks.

A member of our community brought this problem to my attention and I agree our parks should be accessible to all residents of Washington. These fees are making taxpayer-supported parks out of reach for many citizens of the state.

Low-cost and free recreational opportunities are fewer and fewer. I can't support a plan to put more state services out of reach at the same time our family budgets are becoming lean.